

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of :  
Richard Arthur BICKERS et al. :  
Serial No. Not yet assigned : Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
Filed: herewith : Examiner: N/A  
For: CENTRALISED DATA POSITION INFORMATION STORAGE SYSTEM

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said logical data comprises:

records and filemarks; wherein said centralised storage area is configured to store data position information relating to said records and said filemarks in a data table.

**REMARKS**

The above-referenced application is amended to delete the multiple dependencies of claim 3, and avoid the multiple dependent claim filing fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "Marked-Up Version Showing Changes".

Respectfully submitted,

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**Claims:**

1. A method of centralised data position information storage and utilisation comprising the steps of:

5 arranging a byte stream of data into partitioned logical data;

storing data position information relating to said logical data in a reserve storage area;

10 transferring said information from said reserve storage area to a centralised storage area, wherein said centralised storage area is configured to store said information relating to substantially all said partitioned logical data; and

15 utilising said information in said centralised storage area to locate a target data being part of said logical data.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of utilising said logical data position information comprises:

20 applying a search algorithm to said data position information;

wherein said search algorithm is configured to locate said target data.

3. The method as claimed in <sup>claim 1</sup> [any one of claims 1 or 2] wherein said  
25 logical data comprises:

records and filemarks; wherein said centralised storage area is configured to store data position information relating to said records and said filemarks in a data table.